

**In the claims:**

**Claim 1** (currently amended)      In the production of refractory articles, the improvement comprises using a ~~powdered~~ polycondensation product produced by reacting a bisphenol residue from the production of bisphenols with an aldehyde in an acidic medium and adding at least one phenolic compound thereto.

**Claim 2** (previously presented)      In the production of Claim 1, the bisphenol residue is from bisphenol A production.

**Claim 3** (previously presented)      In the production of Claim 1, the aldehyde is formaldehyde.

**Claims 4 and 5** (cancelled).

**Claim 6** (currently amended)      In the production of refractory molded bodies, the improvement comprises using a ~~powdered~~ polycondensation product produced by reacting a bisphenol residue from the production of bisphenols with an aldehyde in an acidic medium and adding at least one phenolic compound thereto.

**Claim 7** (currently amended)      In the production of molded non-woven fabric elements, the improvement comprises using a ~~powdered~~ polycondensation product produced by reacting a bisphenol residue from the production of bisphenols with an aldehyde in an acidic medium and adding at least one phenolic compound thereto.

**Claim 8** (currently amended)      In the production of unmolded articles used in the refractory industry, the improvement comprising using a powdered polycondensation product produced by reacting a bisphenol residue from the production of bisphenols with an aldehyde in an acidic medium and adding at least one phenolic compound thereto.

**Claim 9** (previously presented)      In the production of Claim 1, the phenolic compound is phenol.

**Claim 10** (previously presented)      In the production of Claim 1, the polycondensation product is dissolved in a solvent.

**Claim 11** (previously presented)      In the production of Claim 10, the solvent is high boiling.

**Claim 12** (previously presented)      In the production of Claim 10, the solvent is selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, polyglycols and phthalates.